



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

32nd Meeting, 2013 (Session 4)

Thursday 19 December 2013

Present:

Christian Allard  
John Finnie  
John Mason  
Siobhan McMahon

Marco Biagi (Deputy Convener)  
Alex Johnstone  
Margaret McCulloch (Convener)

Also present: Alex Neil, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing and Richard Lyle

The meeting opened at 9.00 am.

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee decided to take items 3 and 4 in private.
2. **Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill:** The Committee considered the Bill at Stage 2 (Day 1).

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 19, 25 and 26.

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

38 (For 3, Against 4, Abstentions 0)  
39 (For 3, Against 4, Abstentions 0)  
40 (For 3, Against 4, Abstentions 0)  
41 (For 3, Against 4, Abstentions 0)  
42 (For 3, Against 4, Abstentions 0)  
43 (For 3, Against 4, Abstentions 0)  
44 (For 3, Against 4, Abstentions 0)  
45 (For 2, Against 4, Abstentions 1)  
46 (For 2, Against 5, Abstentions 0)

Amendment 10 was moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn.

The following amendments were pre-empted: 18 and 20.

The following amendments were not moved: 11, 12, 13, 17, 21, 22, 23, and 24.

The following provisions were agreed to without amendment: sections 1, 2, 3, 6, schedule 1, and sections 7, 12, 13 and 14.

The following provisions were agreed to as amended: sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

The Committee ended consideration of the Bill for the day, amendment 47 having been moved but not disposed of.

3. **Dads and parenting:** The Committee considered its approach to an inquiry and agreed to issue a Call for Evidence to stakeholders in January.
4. **Female Genital Mutilation:** The Committee considered its approach and agreed to hold an initial evidence session to inform the remit of an inquiry.

The meeting closed at 11.25 am.

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